

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 01827 011536Z

64

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-08 NEA-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ERDA-05 NASA-01 OES-06

SAJ-01 /113 W

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R 011440Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 435

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PARM, CCD, FI

SUBJECT: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR MARTIN

REF: HELSINKI 1817 (NOTAL)

1. US CO-CHAIRMAN OF CCD, AMBASSADOR JOSEPH MARTIN, WAS IN FINLAND AUG 27 - SEPT 1 AT THE INVITATION OF FINNISH MFA. DURING OFFICIAL PART OF VISIT (AUG 30-31), AMB. MARTIN MET WITH FONMIN SORSA, STATE SECRETARY TUOVINEN, POL DEPT. HEAD ILONIEMI, MEMBERS OF MFA'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT, AND GOF DISARMAMENT EXPERT AMBASSADOR ILKKA PASTINEN. MAJOR EVENT OF STAY WAS SPEECH TO FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AUG 31 (REFTEL), FOLLOWED BY QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD.

2. AMBASSADOR MARTIN ALSO HELD PRESS CONFERENCE AUGUST 31, ATTENDED BY ABOUT 20 WRITTEN AND ELECTRONIC REPORTERS. MAJOR NON-COMMUNIST PAPERS, RADIO AND TV GAVE GOOD COVERAGE OF VISIT. AMB. MARTIN AT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EVENTS PRE-

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SENTED US VIEWS ON ARMS CONTROL AND PRAISED FINNISH

CONTRIBUTIONS AT CCD NEGOTIATIONS AND IN ARMS CONTROL
FIELD GENERALLY.

3. COMMENT. AMB. MARTIN'S VISIT, BESIDES PAYING
TRIBUTE TO NOTABLE FINNISH ROLE IN DISARMAMENT EFFORTS
AND TO AMB. PASTINEN PERSONALLY, GAVE EMBASSY OPPORTUNITY
TO ENLARGE ITS CONTACTS WITH FINNS ACTIVE IN ARMS CONTROL
WORK AND OBTAIN NEW INSIGHTS INTO FINNISH THINKING.
QUESTIONS ASKED AT PRESS CONFERENCE AND INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS INSTITUTE EVENT SUGGEST SOME FINNS WONDERING
ABOUT HOW BEST PURSUE ARMS CONTROL EFFORTS, WHETHER
THROUGH ESTABLISHED SPECIALIZED ORGANS LIKE CCD, SALT,
OR THROUGH NEW FORA SUCH AS SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA OR
WDC. SOME FINNS ALSO SEEMED QUESTION WHETHER ARMS CONTROL
EFFORTS SHOULD FOCUS MOSTLY ON EXOTIC WEAPONS WHILE
MASSIVE FLOWS OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TO AFRICA OR MIDDLE
EAST ARE A MORE IMMEDIATE DANGER. ALL IN ALL, AMB. MARTIN
WAS A MOST EFFECTIVE SPOKESMAN. FINNS, GIVEN THEIR
GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION, HAPPY HEAR ABOUT US-USSR COOPERA-
TION IN AT LEAST THE IMPORTANT AREA OF GENEVA DISARMAMENT
CONFERENCE, AND HAPPY THAT GOF EFFORTS APPRECIATED BY US.
AUSTAD

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Message Attributes

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